T-P
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SHAW TRIAL IS SET TO BEGIN ON JAN. 21

Witnesses Contacted by Reporters--DA's Office

By ROBERT USSERY

The district attorney's office announced Monday that it will instigate an Orleans Parish Grand Jury investigation into complaints that two reporters for Newsweek magazine and a private detective have contacted state witnesses in the Clay Shaw case.

A criminal district court judge made a Jan. 21 trial of Shaw on a charge of conspiring to murder President John F. Kennedy, a virtual certainty by refusing to grant two defense motions the same day.

Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. denied a motion to quash Shaw's conspiracy indictment and a motion requesting a change of venue that would have moved the trial at least 100 miles from New Orleans.

JOINT MOTION MADE

Assistant District Attorney James L. Alcock and defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond entered into a joint motion making Jan. 21 the trial date.

District Attorney Jim Garrison last year publicly announced that he would set that date, but Judge Haggerty pointed out that the date could not be officially set until all pleadings were disposed of.

Alcock later announced that he will recommend grand jury action in connection with complaints by some of his witnesses.

He accused Newsweek reporter Hugh Aynesworth and another reporter whom he could only identify as "Biffel," also of Newsweek, of approaching witnesses the state intends to use in the trial of Shaw.

QUOTING STATEMENTS

He said that in some cases the reporters were able to quote to the witnesses from statements they gave to the DA's office.

Alcock said he is interested in how the newsmen discovered the identities of some witnesses, and how they obtained their statements.

"I'm talking about witnesses that many members of our own staff don't know," Alcock said.

Alcock said that William Gurvich, a private investigator, has also contacted some witnesses.

Gurvich was an aide to Garrison in the early stages of the assassination investigation in 1967.

CHARGED WITH THEFT

He was charged with theft of a secret file after he and Garrison broke their relationship in the summer of that year. The charge still pends in criminal court.

Alcock also alleged that someone who accompanied Aynesworth claimed to be from the DA's office. He said Gurvich and Aynesworth were questioning witnesses together, but would not say he suspected Gurvich of claiming to be from the DA's office.

Many statements, Alcock said, were made after Gurvich left the DA's office.

Asked about the possibility of

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CONNIE T. KAYE

VERNON BUNDY

JOHN REILLY

PERRY R. RUSSO

DR. ESMOND A. FATTER

FRANK HAYWARD

REGIS L. KENNEDY

SHAW TRIAL

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a leak in the DA's office itself, Alcock responded, "We're looking into that too."

Alcock said at least 10 witnesses have been contacted by the reporters or Gurvich.

He said the jury probably will not be able to take up the matter this week.

Alcock supplied the clerk of Criminal Court with a typewritten list of the names of 11 witnesses he wants to testify in the Shaw trial.

Most have already come to light in other phases of Shaw's prosecution. The DA's office is expected to produce many witnesses without issuing subpenas.

The witnesses revealed Monday follow:

Regis L. Kennedy, 523 Homestead ave., Metairie.

Connie T. Kaye, 711 Royal.

Vernon J. Bundy Jr., 4039 Athis.

Dr. Esmond A. Fatter, 1043 Robert E. Lee blvd.

Frank Hayward, 1241 Lake ave., Metairie.

John F. Reilly, 1143 St. Mary.

Perry Raymond Russo, 5807 Elysian Fields ave.

Peter Schuster, 5776 Warrington dr.

Lewis E. Hopkins, 7116 Ithaca, Metairie.

Ray B. Hiatt, 1411 Marigny.

Charles Davis, 6609 Glendale, Metairie.

Hopkins and Davis operate Travel Consultants Inc., in the International Trade Mart.

Hopkins said he did not know why he was being subpenaed.

He said Shaw was, in effect, his landlord for 12 years while Shaw was managing director of the Mart.

Shaw was arrested on March 1 of that year.

BOUGHT TICKETS

During that time Shaw bought tickets from him and another agent in connection with trips, Hopkins said.

Miss Kaye, a singer, said she was questioned by the DA's office after she revealed she had a "run-in" with accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald in 1963.

Oswald supposedly objected to some "Cuban material" in her night club act.

Hiatt was listed in the city directory as a laborer.

Russo, an insurance man of Baton Rouge, and Vernon Bundy, a former convict, were the state's main witnesses during a preliminary hearing for Shaw in March, 1967.

Shaw was arrested on March 1st of that year.

Russo testified that he overheard Shaw plotting the assassination of Kennedy with Oswald and a pilot, David Ferrie, in Ferrie's apartment in September, 1963.

Bundy said he saw Shaw and Oswald together on the New Orleans lakefront.

Kennedy, an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, testified before the grand jury in connection with Garrison's probe in May, 1967.

Dr. Fatter, a physician and

court-accredited expert on hypnotism, testified at the preliminary hearing that he had placed Russo under hypnosis during interrogation.

Hayward is a detective in the police community relations division, while Reilly is a detective in the bureau of identification.

Schuster is an employe of the Orleans Parish Coroner's Office.

Dymond also filed a motion to ban any electronic recording devices from the court room.

It gave "strenuous objection" to any attempt to tape record or film any part of the trial.

The motion said the defense had reason to believe that the court planned to allow recording of parts of the trial.

Judge Haggerty assured Dymond that he had given no permission to anyone to record or photograph proceedings during the trial.

However, as a security measure, Criminal Sheriff Louis A. Heyd Jr. planned to install closed circuit television.

Dymond said that would only be permissible if there is no voice, or audio broadcast, and no filming.

The judge promised to outline security procedures Tuesday.

He also promised stern action against anyone caught trying to record any part of the trial.

Haggery conceded that there are persons willing to take a chance and try to record or film the trial.

"If they do, they act at their own peril. I assure you I will put them in jail," the judge warned.